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EXAMINER

ZHANG, JUE

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 2838

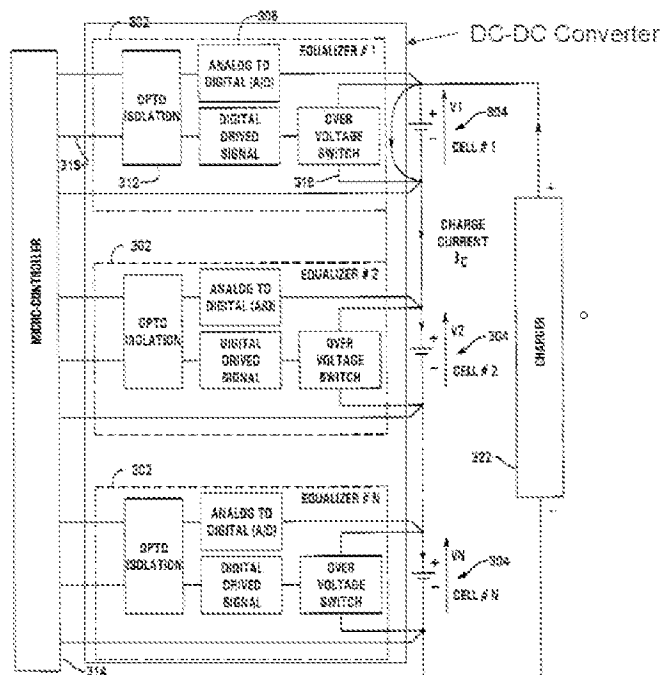
Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant's arguments in the Remarks filed on 6/17/2008 have been fully considered but are not persuasive.

Applicant state in the REMARKS that

" Rouillard, however, does not disclose "a DC-to-DC converter coupled to the electric charge source and to each of the electrical storage modules, the DC-to-DC converter being operable to receive incoming power from the electric charge source and to supply a respective voltage fraction of the DC-system voltage to each electrical storage module wherein the DC-to-DC converter is further operable to control the respective voltage fraction to vary the respective voltage fraction over a time period within a voltage interval around the respective nominal module voltage of each electrical storage module such that during the time period the respective voltage fraction supplied to each electrical storage module is set to be higher than the respective nominal module voltage of each electrical storage module," as is required by claim 1".

As clearly can be seen in the Fig. 31 copied below with Examiner's highlight, '815 does disclose the limitations above including a DC-DC CONVERTER which coupled to the electric charge source (i.e., the CHARGER) and to each of the electrical storage modules (i.e., CELL#1...CELL# N), the DC-to-DC converter being operable to receive incoming power from the electric charge source and to supply a respective voltage fraction of the DC-system voltage to each electrical storage module (i.e., V1....Vn) wherein the DC-to-DC converter is further operable to control the respective voltage fraction to vary the respective voltage fraction over a time period within a voltage interval around the respective nominal module voltage of each electrical storage module such that during the time period the respective voltage fraction supplied to each electrical storage module is set to be higher than the respective nominal module voltage of each electrical storage module (also see Fig 35).

Fig. 31

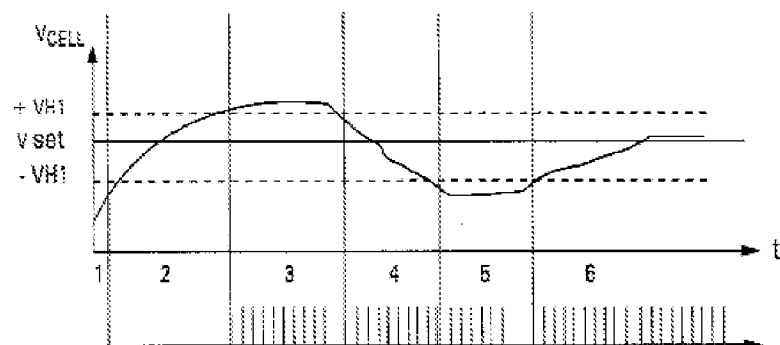


Applicant further state that

"there is no disclosure in Rouillard of a DC-to-DC converter "operable to control the respective voltage fraction to vary the respective voltage fraction over a time period within a voltage interval around the respective nominal module voltage of each electrical storage module such that during the time period the respective voltage fraction supplied to each electrical storage module is set to be higher than the respective nominal module voltage of each electrical storage module."

As clearly seen in Fig. 35 copied below, '815 does disclose the above limitations applicant claimed:

Fig. 35



For at least the reason above, the claim rejections of the previous office action is maintained.